



FIRST INDIA

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HUNDREDS TRAPPED AS 3 LANDSLIDES HIT KERALA'S WAYANAD DISTRICT, ARMY DEPLOYED

125 LOSE LIFE IN 4 HRS!

Kerala government announces two days of State mourning | Extreme weather hinders rescue ops, IMD's red alert in 8 districts | MK Stalin releases ₹5 crore from Tamil Nadu CM General Funds

First India Bureau
Wayanad

Kerala government on Tuesday announced that 2 days, July 30 and 31, will be observed as state mourning. All programmes of the state government have been deferred. Multiple landslides triggered by pounding monsoon rains have killed almost 125 people, more than 128 people receiving treatment for injuries, hundreds more feared trapped as roads washed away under mud and debris in Kerala's hill district of Wayanad on Tuesday. The IMD had forecast heavy rain for the district.



Rescue operation underway after landslides triggered by heavy rain in Wayanad on Tuesday. PTI

The Indian Army was roped in as a temporary bridge that linked the affected area to a nearest town was also destroyed. Two helicopters of the

IAF have also been mobilised, said a statement from Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan's office. A rescue official said rescue efforts remain

challenging as there was no internet connectivity in the area and bad weather is hindering rescue operations. TN CM MK Stalin spoke to Vi-

PM MODI ANNOUNCES ₹2 LAKH EX-GRATIA

PM Narendra Modi spoke to Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and assured all help to the LDF government. He has also asked BJP chief JP Nadda to ensure that party workers assist in rescue work. Meanwhile, Prime Minister has announced ex-gratia of ₹2 lakh from PMNRF for next of kin of each deceased in landslides in parts of Wayanad, injured to be given 50,000, PMO said.

jayan, assuring him of his state's support in rescue efforts, and directed Tamil Nadu authorities to release ₹5 crore to Kerala for assistance. P6

Health Dept issues helpline to assist people

To aid those in need of emergency assistance, the Health Department has established a control room and provided two helpline numbers: 9656938689 and 8086010833

GANDHI OFFERS CONDOLENCES TO BEREAVED FAMILIES

Rahul Gandhi extended his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families. He addressed the Lower House, urging the Union Government to provide all necessary support for rescue and medical care. Meanwhile, Rahul and Priyanka Gandhi were scheduled to visit Wayanad today. However, visit has been put on hold due to "adverse weather conditions."



Vehicles stuck in debris after huge landslide at Chooralmala.

SENSEX

BSE 81,455.40
NIFTY 24,857.30
99.55 21.20

PM Modi addresses CII Post-Budget conf

Union Budget '24 thrice UPA's 2014 Budget: PM

India's fiscal prudence is role model for the world, says PM Modi

First India Bureau
New Delhi

PM Narendra Modi on Tuesday addressed a CII post-Budget 2024 conference, stating that in 10 years, his government has tripled India's Budget. The last Budget presented by the Manmohan Singh government in 2014 was of ₹16 lakh crore. Ten years later, the Union Budget 2024 presented by us a few days ago is ₹48 lakh crore, which is three times, Modi said.

Addressing inaugural session of Journey Towards Viksit Bharat: A Post Union Budget 2024-25 Conference at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on Tuesday, PM Modi also said that the capital expenditure allocation under his governments has grown manifold.

He also noted the time when India had been



PM Narendra Modi at inaugural session of Journey Towards Viksit Bharat: A Post Union Budget 2024-25 Conference, Delhi, Tuesday.

India, which is currently the world's fifth largest economy, will soon become the third largest.

NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER

ranked among the 'Fragile Five' economies in the world. The Prime Minister said that his govern-

No state has been denied any money: Sitharaman

First India Bureau
New Delhi

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday responded to Budget 2024-25 debate in Lok Sabha and slammed Opposition parties for 'misleading claims' that the Budget has provided funds only to Bihar and Andhra and nothing to other states. "If a state's name is not mentioned in speech, it does not mean that no money is given to them," said Sitharaman. P5

LS APPROVES ₹48.21 TN BUDGET FOR J&K

The Lok Sabha approved the ₹48.21 trillion Budget for 2024-25 of the Union Government. The lower House also approved the budget of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir with a voice vote. The relevant appropriation bills were also passed by the House.

Bronze sparkles for India!

- Manu-Sarabjot win India's 2nd medal at Paris Olympic Games
- Bhaker, first woman to bag two medals in single olympic games

First India Bureau
Paris

Indian shooters Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh scripted history to defeat South Korea's Lee Won-ho and Oh Ye-jin in the 10m Air Pistol mixed team bronze medal match at the Paris 2024 Olympics on Tuesday. This was India's 6th Olympic medal in shooting & 1st-ever in shooting team event. Jin, struck a 9 on her final shot while partner managed a 9.5 whereas Bhaker hit a 9.4 but a 10.2 from Singh confirmed medal for India. P7



Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh win the bronze medal in 10 m air pistol mixed team event at 2024 Paris Olympics on Tuesday.

I'm feeling really proud and there is lot of gratitude, thanks for all the blessings.

MANU BHAKER

I'm feeling very happy, the game was very tough and there was a lot of pressure.

SARABJOT SINGH

WISHES POUR IN FOR THE DUO

- 'Desh ka naam or maan bada kar dia': PM Narendra Modi interacts with Paris Olympic bronze medallist Sarabjot Singh
- Prez Droupadi Murmu, VP Jagdeep Dhankhar, Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh, Mansukh Mandaviya, S Jaishankar, Nitin Gadkari and others laud Manu-Sarabjot
- Our athletes create history again: IOC member of India Nita Ambani congratulates Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh

PADHARO MHARE DES!

CM Shrivastava to administer oath to new Governor Haribhau Kisanrao Bagade at 4 pm in Raj Bhavan today



Governor-designate Haribhau Kisanrao Bagade with Governor Kalraj Mishra at the Raj Bhavan on Tuesday.

The Governor-designate of Rajasthan Haribhau Kisanrao Bagade reached Jaipur on Tuesday by a State aircraft. The Governor designate was greeted by CM Bhajan Lal Sharma and Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani at the Jaipur Airport. Deputy CM Dr Premchand Bairwa, other members of the cabinet, CS Sudhansh Pant, DGP UR Sahoo and senior administrative and police officers also welcomed him. Later, Haribhau Kisanrao Bagade reached Rajasthan Raj Bhavan and met Governor Kalraj Mishra. P8



CM Bhajan Lal Sharma welcomes Governor-designate Haribhau Kisanrao Bagade at Jaipur Airport on Tuesday.

THOUGHTFUL TALKS ON RAJASTHAN

Panchayats and Urban Bodies key to 'Viksit Rajasthan 2047': CM Bhajan Lal

First India Bureau
Jaipur

CEO and Managing Editor of First India News Pawan Arora paid a courtesy visit to Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma at his residence on Tuesday. During this cordial meeting, duo had a meaningful discussion on various topics. Pawan Arora also congratulated the Chief Minister for better budget announcements in the Assembly recently. There was a long discussion between the two about the roadmap for 'Viksit Rajasthan 2047', especially



First India News CEO & Managing Editor Pawan Arora calls on CM Bhajan Lal Sharma at CMR on Tuesday.



what role can the Panchayati Raj institutions and Urban Bodies, including Gram Panchayats and small municipalities, play in achieving the goal of the 'Viksit Rajasthan 2047'. For this, it will be

necessary to orient all the Gram Panchayats and Urban Bodies. In the coming time, the State Government will organise orientation programmes for these institutions. There was also a detailed dis-

ussion on the role of media in realizing the vision of the 'Viksit Rajasthan 2047'. During the informal conversation, the CM also said that he is in favour of purity in politics and the new generation is

being attracted to politics because of the influential positions, but politics is basically a work of service and this generation should enter politics with a spirit of service keeping in mind the last person.

Delhi tragedy spurs crackdown: 2 coaching centres sealed in Jpr

Shivendra Parmar, Bharat Dixit & Dimple Sharma
Jaipur

After the tragic death of a girl due to drowning at a coaching centre in Rajendra Nagar, Delhi and the reality check by First India News, Jaipur Municipal Corporation Greater swung into action and sealed two in-



Impact

stitutes. A six-member committee has been constituted for the inspection of coaching institutes in the area.

Mayor Dr Somya along with the fire and Mansarovar zone team went to inspect coaching centres. Popular coaching centre Guru Kripa

on Gopalpura bypass was sealed due to lack of fire NOC. Around 500 to 700 students were in one classroom, there was no fire exit and non-compliance of building bylaws.

During this surprise inspection, neither fire NOC was found in Guru Kripa Coaching Institute nor UD tax was deposited and the building was sealed.

Besides, 700 children were found in a classroom in Kalam Institute, on which the Mayor appealed to the students and parents to raise their voice against such institutes and complain to the corporation.

Following a significant reality check by First India News, the govt has issued stringent orders regarding coach-



Authorities seal coaching centre Guru Kripa on Gopalpura bypass, Tuesday. (INSET) Dr Somya inspects a coaching centre.

ing centers operating in basements. These directives have been sent to all development authorities, urban improvement trusts, and municipal bodies.



125 jails and 56 inmates searched after threat to CM Bhajan Lal



First India Bureau
Jaipur

In response to threats against the Chief Minister, joint search operations were launched in 125 jails across the state by police and jail staff. On Monday, district jail superintendents led a search in 15 jails, and the operation expanded to 125 jails on Tuesday.

During these searches, authorities gathered significant information. In Jodhpur's high-security central jail, a mobile phone was discovered on the roof of barrack number 2 in ward number 10, leading to a case being registered at Ratanada police station.

Meanwhile, no suspicious items were found in Alwar Central Jail. In Barmer jail, although no mobile phones were recovered, it was noted that the facility is severely overcrowded, housing more than 250 prisoners in 158 barracks.

Two days ago, a prisoner lodged in Dausa Shyalawas jail had threatened to kill CM Bhajanlal Sharma.



Search operation conducted in Dausa jail on Tuesday.

BODIES FOUND IN ANICUT, 2 ARRESTED

Pratapgarh: The gruesome triple murder that shocked Tanda of Mungana has been solved. The incident, which occurred on July 27, stemmed from a heated dispute over constructing a bathroom, further aggravated by the father's second marriage. Acting on the accused's confession, police recovered the bodies late Monday evening. Kaniram Labana and Kantilal Labana have been arrested, while the search for other suspects continues. The investigation is being led by CI Kapil Patidar.

POLICE RECOVER 76 LOST MOBILES

Banswara: In a significant move to curb cyber crime, the Banswara police have recovered 76 mobile phones as part of Operation Antivirus, a special campaign aimed at combating cyber crime in the region. The campaign has also led to action against 26 individuals involved in cyber crimes. Using the Pratibimb app, the team tracked down the locations of the suspects within the district.

LIQUOR WORTH ₹35 LAKH SEIZED IN SIROHI

Sirohi: On Tuesday, Gujarat Police intercepted a large consignment of liquor at the Rajasthan-Gujarat border. The seizure took place at the Amirgarh border in Banaskantha district, where a truck transporting the illicit cargo was apprehended upon entering Gujarat from Rajasthan. Authorities confiscated 580 cartons, totaling 6,960 bottles of liquor, with an estimated value of Rs 35 lakh.

ACB ARRESTS JUNIOR ASST TAKING 9K BRIBE

Nagaur: The Nagaur ACB team, under the leadership of Additional SP Kalpana Solanki, carried out an action in Degana and arrested Junior Assistant Ashok working in SDM office re-handled while taking a bribe of Rs 9800 on Tuesday. ASP Kalpana Solanki of Nagaur ACB said that Ashok had demanded bribe in lieu of stopping the proceedings of Roda Act against the complainant Richpal Ram after he defaulted in KCC loan and removing the name of the bank from the mutation of the land. When ACB received a complaint, the team laid a trap.

WOMAN OCCUPIES SDM'S CHAIR, BOOKED

Sadulpur: A significant disturbance occurred at the SDM office in Sadulpur when a woman, identified as Gayatri Poonia, entered the premises and occupied the SDM's chair. The incident prompted the SDM's personal assistant to file a case against Poonia at the Sadulpur police station. According to reports, Poonia is accused of making government documents disappear, pushing assistant employee Bahadur Singh, and issuing threats as she left the office. At the time of the incident, SDM Sushil Saini was out on field duties. This caused unrest among the employees.

Over 200 encroachments cleared in major JDA operation

Abhishek Shrivastav
Jaipur

The (JDA) undertook a significant operation on Tuesday to clear encroachments along both sides of the road from Gopalpura Bypass to Tonk Road Durgapura, extending up to Rambagh, covering approximately 5 kilometers. Additionally, illegal colonies spread over 23 bighas were demolished.

From July 15 to 30, encroachments along 49 kms of Jaipur's roads have been removed to facilitate smoother traffic flow. Chief Controller Mahendra Kumar Sharma stated that 200 encroachments were removed in an area spanning approx 5 kilometers from Gopalpura Bypass to Tonk Road Durgapura up to Rambagh on Tuesday.



Sanitation workers on strike over preference in recruitment

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Cleanliness system has come to a standstill after the sanitation workers strike across the state. The Valmiki community workers have been on mass leave demanding preference in recruitment.

In Bindayaka of Jaipur, workers submitted a memorandum under the leadership of employee leader Rajendra Sarwan at Minister Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore's residence. In Chomu, workers gathered at the main gate of Chomu Nagar Parishad and protested.

In Abu Road of Sirohi, striking workers gathered outside the municipality and started a 'broom down' movement. They submitted a memorandum to the subdivision officer in the name of the CM.



NAIM KHAN



Garbage accumulation in Walled City markets and localities due to ongoing strike by sanitation workers in Jaipur, on Tuesday.

In Kishangarh (Ajmer), on the call of Joint Valmiki and Safai Shramik Union, Jaipur, Rajasthan,

workers went on strike. About 600 permanent and temporary sanitation workers are on strike.

Pathya Pustak Mandal faces paper quality dispute

First India Bureau
Jaipur

The meeting of the Governing Council of Pathya Pustak Mandal, traditionally held every June, has been delayed again this year, raising concerns about the timely procurement of paper and printing of textbooks.

According to sources, the delay stems from a disagreement over the quality of paper to be used. One faction advocates for the purchase of recycled paper, while an-

other insists on continuing the practice of using virgin paper, as has been done in previous years under leaders like B.D. Kalla, Govind Singh Dotsra, & Vasudev Devnani. The controversy has been further complicated by suspicions of a major 'deal' involving a large supplier in favor of recycled paper, suggesting possible behind-the-scenes maneuvering. It appears that the officials of the Pathya Pustak Mandal are currently entangled in this issue.

Alok Vashisth joins NSA team as Joint Secy

First India Bureau
Jaipur

It's a moment of pride for Rajasthan as IPS officer Alok Kumar Vashisth has become a key member of the NSA team. Vashisth is now taking on responsibilities alongside NSA Ajit Doval, serving as Joint Secretary in the National Security Agency. A 1998 batch IPS officer, Vashisth has held several important positions within the state.



4 dead, 6 injured in Rajsamand roof collapse

First India Bureau
Rajsamand

Four labourers were killed and six injured when the roof of an under-construction building collapsed in Rajsamand police said on Tuesday. The construction of a community hall was underway in the Khamnor area and 13 labourers were working at the site. The roof of the under-construction building collapsed on Monday night, trapping 10 of the labourers.

New dists review panel to submit report in August

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Retired IAS officer Lalit K. Panwar held discussions with Jaipur Collector Prakash Rajpurohit and other district officials regarding the review of newly formed districts. Panwar, who chairs the committee set up by the Bhajanlal govt to review these districts, visited the Collectorate for this purpose. In an exclusive interview with First India News, Panwar shared updates on the committee's progress. He stated, "The

committee will submit its report within the next month. We have completed half of our work and have requested an additional month from the government."

Panwar also mentioned that he has visited five districts so far and held discussions with the respective Collectors.

Regarding Jaipur, Panwar highlighted that the division of the district was based on area and population considerations, reflecting a detailed approach to the restructuring process.

Court acquits all accused, including an IPS, 11 SHOs in extortion case

First India Bureau
Ajmer

A special court in Ajmer on Tuesday acquitted all 15 people, including 11 SHOs and an IPS officer, accused in a decade-old case involving an alleged extortion racket.

The court acquitted them giving them benefit of doubt. The 15, one of them a Raj Police Service officer, were made accused under various sections of Prevention of Corruption Act and IPC.

The Anti-Corruption Bureau had in January 2013 arrested the then



The accused reached the court before the verdict.

Ajmer Superintendent of Police Rajesh Meena, an IPS, along with alleged middleman Ramdev Thathera, for allegedly extorting money from the Station House Offic-

ers under his jurisdiction.

Besides the two, the ACB had also arrested the then Additional SP, Lokesh Sonwal, inspectors Khan Mohammad, Sanjay Sharma, Hanuman Singh, Kishal Ram, Pramod Swami, Gopal Lal, Banshi Lal, Jaipal, Ravindra Yadav, Sunil Vishnoi, and Ashok Vishnoi, who all were the SHOs of different police stations, and Hemant Jain, a civilian. The special TADA court in Ajmer, which hears the ACB cases, pronounced the judgment.

Nina Singh to retire as CISF's first woman chief

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Nina Singh, the pioneering woman IPS officer from the 1989 batch of the Rajasthan cadre, is set to retire on Wednesday from her role as Director General (DG) of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF). On Tuesday, Singh formally handed over the additional charge of her position to IPS Anish Dayal Singh. Singh's distinguished career includes being the first female IPS officer to head the CISF.

QUESTIONING ACCOUNTABILITY

Pilot slams govt for inefficiency

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Sachin Pilot, All India Congress Committee General Secretary and former Deputy Chief Minister, criticized the state government on Tuesday, accusing it of failing to deliver essential services and maintain law and order. Pilot highlighted the proliferation of power centres within the government, which, according to him, has led to ineffective ministerial responses in



Sachin Pilot visited an exhibition on the 'Jaipur Tiger Festival' hosted at Jawahar Kala Kendra, Jaipur on Tuesday. Also seen is Dharendra Godha.

the House. He lamented the government's inability to provide adequate

electricity and water, and its failure to curb crime, particularly the

activities of the gravel mafia.

Pilot also criticized both the central and state budgets for lacking measures to combat inflation. He questioned the BJP government's resolution to create 400,000 jobs, demanding a clear timeline for recruitment. He described the central budget as a "Sarkar-Bachao" budget, arguing that allocating funds to states like Bihar and Andhra Pradesh at the expense of others is politically motivated and unjust.

Congress MLA Shanti Dhariwal apologises for abusive language during session

DHARIWAL FACES TWO-DAY SUSPENSION

Yogesh Sharma & Aishwary Pradhan
Jaipur

Congress MLA Shanti Dhariwal, who apologized on Tuesday for using abusive language in the assembly, will be restricted from participating in House proceedings for two days.

However, he can still come to the assembly but will not be allowed to participate in the House proceeding.

Shanti Dhariwal had made derogatory remarks on Friday. After hearing members from both ruling party members and the opposition regarding this matter, and considering Dhariwal's apology, Speaker Devnani stated,



Congress MLA Shanti Dhariwal had used inappropriate language during the Assembly Session last week.

"You may attend the Assembly today and tomorrow, but you will not be permitted to participate in the proceedings of the House." Devnani expressed his strong disapproval of such behavior.

He said that as per the conduct, Shanti Dhariwal

had no right to remain a member of the House for four years.

However, after the request and apology of the members of the Congress party, Assembly speaker Devnani has taken the decision to restrict Dhariwal for two days.

MISA detainees' wives will also get pension, Raj Loktantra Senani Samman Bill tabled

Pankaj Soni
Jaipur

A law will be made for Emergency prisoners in the state just like freedom fighters. The Rajasthan Loktantra Senani Samman Bill related to this law has been placed in the Assembly by the government on Tuesday. After the passage of this bill, Loktantra Senani i.e. such persons who were kept in jail during Emergency, he or his wife on his death will be entitled to this pension of the government. In case the Loktantra Prisoner is a woman, her husband will be able to get the

THOSE WHO APOLOGISED WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE

According to the new bill, only those persons will be entitled to this pension who had been imprisoned for at least thirty days during the period from 25 June 1975 to 21 March 1977. But a person who came out of jail by seeking forgiveness will not be entitled to this pension. If the person does not have a certificate of going to jail, then he will have to get his application signed by two certified MISA prisoners.

benefit of this pension.

BJP's Vasundhara Raje government started a similar pension in 2008 during its first term. After that, it was stopped when the Congress government came to power. When the BJP government came again, it was started again. Now the government has prepared to give the pension, the form of

law. As soon as the Bhanjan Lal government came to power, it announced the implementation of this new law in the first cabinet meeting and restarted the 'Samman Rashi' for the Emergency prisoners. Along with the honorarium, such prisoners will also get free treatment and the facility of travelling in roadways.

QUESTION HOUR

Bagru community health centre to be developed

Health Minister Gajendra Singh assured the house on Tuesday that the state government will develop Bagru Community Health Centre as an ideal Community Health Centre. He said that this decision will expand better health facilities in Bagru town which has a population of 50,000.

Cow shelter grants to have a 10% raise

Animal Husbandry Minister Joram Kumawat said that grants payable to registered cow shelters will be increased by 10 percent in view of cow protection and promotion. He said that the announcement has been made in the state budget.

Distribution of crop insurance policies

Minister of State for Industry KK Vishnoi informed the house that Govt has distributed crop insurance policies by organizing camps under the PM Fasal Bima Yojana. He said that 1842 complaints were received in the Kharif-2022 season.

ASSEMBLY REPEALS GANDHI VATIKA TRUST ACT

The State government on Tuesday repealed the Gandhi Vatika Trust, Jaipur Act, 2023 enacted by the previous Congress government for operations of Gandhi Darshan Museum here. A bill -- The Gandhi Vatika Trust, Jaipur (Repeal) Bill, 2024 -- to this effect was introduced in the Rajasthan Assembly on July 15, which was passed today after a discussion by a voice vote in the House.

Bhilwara Textile body's efforts yield good results

First India Bureau
Bhilwara

In a successful initiative by the Bhilwara Textile Trade Federation, Federation President Damodar Agrawal has secured substantial relief for the industry. By engaging with the Energy Minister and the CM, Agrawal has successfully increased the captive power capacity from 100% to 200%. This move has been widely welcomed by



Damodar Agrawal

the industry. Additionally, gratitude has been expressed towards the Chief Minister and Member of Parliament Damodar Agrawal for their support.



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Row over celebrating 370 abrogation anniv in schools

First India Bureau
Jaipur

The Rajasthan Education Department's academic calendar for new session in state government schools has sparked a political debate as it proposes to celebrate abrogation of Article 370 and birthday of Hindutva ideologue Vinayak Damodar

Savarkar. Congress state president Govind Singh Dotsara criticised the BJP-led state government's decision, terming it as a "shameless" move to serve political interests. BJP spokesperson Mukesh Pareek defended the calendar and accused Congress of indulging in appeasement politics.

B2 BYPASS

Cloverleaf to open for commuters from today



The clover leaf at B2 bypass will help in facilitating smooth traffic movement and will provide relief to general public.

Abhishek Shrivastava
Jaipur

The Jaipur Development Authority, led by Chief Minister Bhanjan Lal Sharma and Urban Development Minister Jhabar Singh Kharra, will inaugurate the B-2 Bypass Clover Leaf for traffic on July 31, 2024.

The Rs 161 crore project aims to alleviate congestion at the B-2 Bypass Junction, a key

link connecting Durgapura, Sanganeer, and other areas. Jaipur Development Commissioner Manju Rajpal highlighted that the signal-free junction will allow smoother traffic flow, with new routes easing access to Jawahar Circle, Mansarovar, and more. The project includes an underpass, ramps, and clover leaves, addressing peak-hour jams and enhancing connectivity across major city zones.



Coaching hubs or death traps...

Why students' dreams are being stubbed despite paying a huge premium



Robin Roy

The writer is Senior Journalist and former Managing Editor, First India



Students gather as they stage a protest after three civil service aspirants died due to flooding in the basement of the Old Rajinder Nagar's coaching centre, at Karol Bagh Metro Station in New Delhi.

Unfortunately, most coaching centres across the country, intended to be cradles for students who dream to excel in competitive exams, have in reality turned into death traps where the dreams of the students for a golden future are completely ruined. The academic pressure that pushes these hubs often eclipse the fundamental need for safety. The disaster in Old Rajinder Nagar highlights complete negligence—where dreams are sacrificed at the altar of greed and profit. Even after paying a fortune during enrolment at these centres, the students don't have an iota of guarantee of safety.

Barely a year ago, a massive fire at a multi-storey building housing coaching centres in North West Delhi's Mukherjee Nagar led to disturbing scenes of students jumping off windows to escape the blaze, highlighting the inadequate safety measures at such establishments. The Delhi High Court had (then) directed agencies to crack down on coaching centres running in violation of safety measures, but the death of three civil services aspirants after the basement of a coaching centre flooded in central Delhi following rain has again put a question mark on the agencies' efficiency in implementing safety norms.

Coaching institutions across Delhi, some queued up in cramped lanes while others housed in lofty buildings in busy commercial areas, are continuously risking lives of students, with lack of fire safety measures and also single entry and exit points, faulty

For how long will students be sacrificed and fleeced to satiate the greed of "businessmen" who have apparently made the subject of imparting education a wholesale business

wiring and overloaded electrical circuits among the most common problems.

SURAT FIRE

In 2019, at least 22 students were killed and several others injured in a fire at a coaching centre in Sarthana area of Surat in Gujarat. The coaching centre was located on the third and fourth floors of the Takshashila Complex.

CAUSE OF BLAZE

An initial investigation suggests the fire was caused by a short-circuit. According to a fire official, flames started from the ground floor and reached the top floor, forcing some students to take shelter on the terrace which was covered. "Lot of smoke accumulated on the top floor where there were AC compressors and tires which caught fire too. There was no escape route available for the students who got trapped on the top floors. The fire was doused in one hour. There were no safety equipment installed in the building," a fire official told the media.

Meanwhile, on the Saturday incident, the MCD said the owner of the institute had falsely shown that the basement was

being used for parking and as a store room, as per the building plan and No Objection Certificate (NOC) of the fire department. A civic body official also said that the storm drains in the area were "covered by encroachers on street sides leading to flooding" and the rainwater entered the basement.

The Mukherjee Nagar incident in June last year in which several students were injured had occurred due to a fire in the electric metre on the third floor of the building, according to the police. The high court had taken note of the incident after news reports showed desperate students smashing windows and rappelling down ropes and wires to escape smoke and fire. In a status report, the Delhi Police informed the court that of the 583 coaching institutes running in the national capital, only 67 have no-objection certificates (NOC) from the Delhi Fire Services.

The Delhi government counsel said that more than 95 per cent of the coaching centres did not have a fire safety certificate from the department despite it being a statutory requirement. Delhi Fire Services (DFS), in its status report, said it conducted a survey of 461 coach-

ing centres and found that the requisite fire preventive and safety measures, as per the Delhi Fire Service Act and its rules, had not been adopted. The High Court directed that coaching centres in the city not conforming to statutory requirements under the Delhi Master Plan, 2021 will have to be shut down.

"After the Mukherjee Nagar fire incident, the MCD acting upon court's order carried out an inspection of the coaching centres in the area and served notices and shut many establishments that were found violating building bye-laws," a civic body official said. The fire department also carried out a survey in the area to check the implementation of fire safety measures at the coaching institutions and submitted its report to the court later, a senior DFS official said.

A team of the civic body reached the spot to seal basements of many coaching centres running illegally acting upon Mayor Shelly Oberoi's orders, a statement by the Delhi government said on Sunday. Establishments running illegally from the basement have been identified and a drive to take action against them has started, an official said. The Delhi Police has arrested the owner and the coordinator of the institute and have booked them for culpable homicide among other charges, officials said. Civic apathy also claimed the life of a 26-year-old UPSC aspirant recently when he was electrocuted to death in the same area just a week ago while he was trying to cross a waterlogged street and came in contact with an open wire.

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE AUTHOR ARE PERSONAL

ILLEGAL USE OF THE BASEMENT

As per News18, Rau's IAS Study Circle building had four floors, a parking space and a basement. Due to heavy rainfall and subsequent waterlogging, the water got accumulated in the basement, which was housing 20-25 students at the time.

IGNORED COMPLAINTS

Nearly a month ago, on June 26, civil services aspirant Kishor Singh Kushwah filed a complaint against the coaching centre with the MCD regarding the illegal use of the basement, according to Indian Express.

NO DRAINAGE SYSTEM

As per the FIR accessed by News18, Abhishek Gupta, who lives in Gurugram, admitted that there was no water drainage system in the basement.

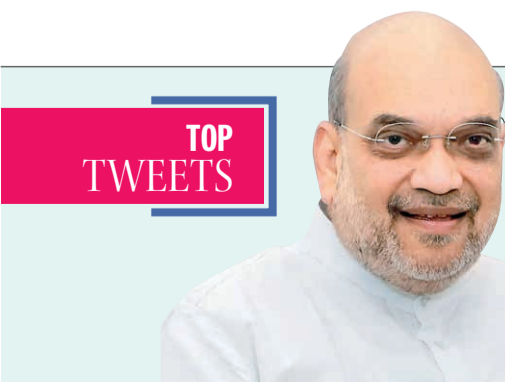
FAILURE TO CLEAR THE ROADSIDE DRAIN

As per the report by News18, the incessant rainfall in the National Capital on Saturday turned the area into a sinkhole and led to flooding "as the silt was not cleared." It stated that the clearing of the silt and drain with suction pumps began only a day after the horrific incident. Rajya Sabha MP Swati Malwal said students revealed that they had been demanding drain cleaning repeatedly for ten days, but no action was taken.

INCIDENTS IN PAST

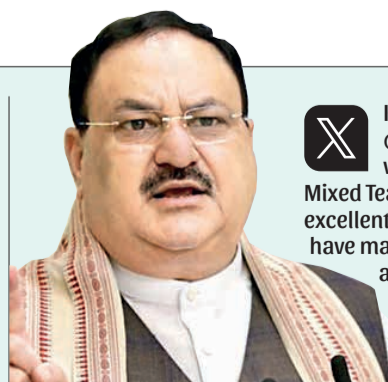
In another incident in September 2023, a fire at a women paying guest (PG) facility in Mukherjee Nagar due to a short circuit in the power meter panel near the only staircase in the three-storey building left many injured. The incident occurred barely a day after the Municipal Corporation of Delhi launched a sealing drive against coaching institutes operating without a fire NOC

In January 2020 the roof of a coaching centre collapsed in North East Delhi's Bhajanpura locality killing five including four students and injuring 14 people. After the latest incident at the Old Rajinder Nagar-based Rau's IAS Study Circle, the MCD has again initiated action against those flouting norms and will set up a high-level committee to probe the incident, civic body officials said



Deeply concerned by the incidents of landslides in Wayanad, Kerala. The NDRF is conducting search and rescue operations on a war footing. The second team is on its way to further strengthen the response operation. My condolences to the families of the deceased and prayers for the speedy recovery of the injured.

Amit Shah @AmitShah



Kudos to our shooters @realmanubhaker and Sarabjot Singh for winning the bronze medal in the 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team event at the #ParisOlympics2024. Your excellent teamwork and remarkable performance have made the entire nation proud. Manu's achievement of winning back-to-back Olympic medals highlights her consistent brilliance and dedication.

Jagat Prakash Nadda @JPNadda

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India will emerge as a global player in sunrise sectors: PM



PM Narendra Modi, Nirmala Sitharaman and Piyush Goyal at CII post budget conference on Tuesday.

First India Bureau
New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said that as India is headed to become the third largest economy soon, he was confident that the country will emerge as a global player in the sunrise sectors such as semiconductors, electronics manufacturing and green

energy.

Addressing the inaugural session of 'Journey Towards Viksit Bharat: A Post Union Budget 2024-25 Conference' at the Vigyan Bhavan here, PM Modi said new opportunities are emerging in sunrise sectors and India Inc. must capitalise on them.

"The whole world is looking at India today.

India's policies and ethics and aims and investment is the basis for progress for the whole world," the Prime Minister remarked.

PM Modi said that despite global headwinds, India is the only 'high growth, low inflation' country in the world in contrast to the "low growth, high inflation" other countries. India's

fiscal prudence is a role model for the world," he added.

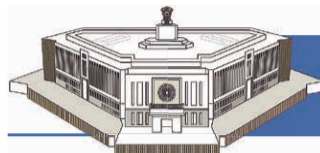
"The world today wants to invest in India, and world leaders are positive about India. This is a golden chance for Indian industry and we must not lose this opportunity," he told the captains of Indian industry.

"I sincerely believe that industry will help

make India a global player in sunrise sectors. A confident India will become a global player," the Prime Minister said.

"The wealth creators are the driving force for India's growth story," he remarked.

The PM said that Budget 2024-25 would strengthen the momentum towards achieving Viksit Bharat.



PARLIAMENT SESSION

Union FM recalled that in their Budgets, UPA govt also did not mention names of all states in their Budget speech

No state denied money in FY25 Budget: Sitharaman



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman speaks in Lok Sabha during Monsoon session of Parliament, in New Delhi, on Tuesday.

Akhilesh, Anurag Thakur clash over Agnipath scheme

First India Bureau
Kolkata

New Delhi: A war of words took place between Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav and BJP MP Anurag Thakur over the Agnipath scheme in Lok Sabha on Tuesday. Speaking during a discussion on the Union Budget in Lok Sabha, Yadav accused the government of initially orchestrating supportive tweets from major industrialists to promote the Agnipath scheme. In response, former Union minister Thakur stood in defence of the Agnipath scheme, invoking the military legacy of his home state Himachal Pradesh.

BJP submits no-confidence motion against WB Speaker

First India Bureau
Kolkata

The BJP on Tuesday filed a no-confidence motion against Speaker Biman Bandopadhyay in WB Assembly.

The proposal signed by as many as 50 BJP legislators was handed over to the Assembly secretary, Sukumar Roy in the afternoon. A team of BJP MLAs led by LoP Suwendu Adhikari went to the office of Sukumar Ray and handed over the proposal.

Meanwhile, Speaker Biman Bandopadhyay said he would comment "if the Opposition files any no-confidence motion against me"

Yogi Adityanath govt proposes life sentence under 'Love Jihad' law



Yogi Adityanath in the State Assembly, in Lucknow, on Tuesday.

First India Bureau
Lucknow

The Yogi Adityanath govt has introduced the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion (Amendment) Bill, 2024 in the Assembly, which proposes harsher punishment, leading up to life imprisonment in 'love jihad' cases.

The proposed amendments have been welcomed by the BJP as a step in the right direction while the Samajwadi Party has termed it a 'divisive' move, aimed at creating 'animosity' in society.

UP Deputy CM Keshav Prasad Maurya told reporters that the legisla-

Yogi Adityanath on Tuesday extended greetings to Mata Prasad Pandey, the newly appointed LoP in the UP Assembly

tion should be welcomed as this would act as a 'deterrent' against such practices.

Samajwadi Party, on the other hand, slammed the Yogi Adityanath government for bringing amendments in the existing laws regarding 'love jihad' and said that it nothing but negative politics and motivated by the BJP's 'aversion' towards a particular community.

First India Bureau
New Delhi

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday termed misleading claims by opposition leaders that if any state is not named in the Budget speech, then it does not get any budgetary allocation.

Replying to a Budget discussion in the Lok Sabha, Sitharaman asserted that no state was being denied money.

She recalled that in the past Budgets by the UPA government also did not mention names of all states in their Budget speech.

"I have been picking up on Budget speeches since 2004-2005, 2005-2006, 2006-2007, 2007-2008 and so on. The Budget of 2004-2005

Anurag Thakur and Rahul Gandhi spar in Lok Sabha

First India Bureau
New Delhi

A debate over demand for a caste census, which has been spearheaded by LoP Rahul Gandhi, took a personal turn in Lok Sabha on Tuesday when BJP MP Anurag Thakur said those whose caste is unknown are calling for an enumeration.

While Thakur did not take any names, Gandhi and the benches saw the

comment as a dig at Congress leader.

On Monday, Gandhi used the traditional 'halwa' ceremony and the lack of diversity in the Budget-making exercise to hit out at the govt, prompting the BJP to retort that the history of the Congress is "replete with instances of obstructing reservation".

On Tuesday, Thakur listed out alleged scams under Congress govts and said, "Rahul ji, you

spoke about 'halwa'. Who had the 'halwa' from Bofors scam, from Antriksh-Dewas scam, from Commonwealth Games, National Herald, submarine, Agusta Westland, 2G, coal, urea and fodder scams? Rahul ji, was the 'halwa' sweet or tasteless? Some people talk about OBCs, but for Congress OBC stands for 'only for brother-in-law commission'. This party will talk about other backward castes?"

did not take the name of 17 states. I would like to ask the members of the UPA government at that time - did money not go to those 17 states? Did they stop it?" Sitharaman said.

She was responding to comments by several opposition members that the Budget has provided funds only to Bihar and Andhra Pradesh and nothing to other states.

Sitharaman said India is the fastest-growing economy globally and has overcome the after-effects of the pandemic due to heavy capex push.

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"UPA govt refused profit to farmers"

First India Bureau
New Delhi

New Delhi: Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Tuesday said the previous UPA government had refused to provide 50 per cent profit on cost to farmers in the minimum support price (MSP) for crops, as based on the formula suggested by the MS Swaminathan Commission. During the Question Hour in the Lok Sabha, Congress MP Deepender Hooda had asked a supplementary question related to the farmers' protests of 2020-21 and said around 750 farmers lost their lives during the agitation. Chouhan said the question was not related to the main question, which was on issues faced by farmers.

MoU signed to develop novel medical technologies

PTI
New Delhi

An agreement was signed on Tuesday between the defence ministry's innovation wing and the AFMS to foster innovation and research in developing novel medical technologies and their induction into the armed forces.

Innovations for Defence Excellence-Defence Innovation Organisation (iDEX-DIO), the flagship initiative of the ministry signed it with the Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS) for the launch of Medical Innovations and Research Advancement (MIRA). The MoU was signed by Additional Secy (defence production) and CEO DIO and AFMS Director General.

VICE PRESIDENT SPEAKS

'Proud to be Jat', says Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar

PTI
New Delhi

Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar on Tuesday said he is "Jat" and is proud of his caste while replying to a query from a member of the house during the debate on the Union Budget.

Dhankhar said the Jats come under the OBC in the Central and the Rajasthan government list and he was part of the committee which led the agitation demanding reservation for the community.

"I am Jat and proud to belong to this caste," said Dhankhar adding "This is in the OBC list in Rajasthan and also in the Central list."

Dhankhar's statement came during BJP member Ghanshyam Tiwari's



V-P Jagdeep Dhankhar presides over a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee at Parliament House, in New Delhi on Tuesday. Union Ministers JP Nadda, Kiren Rijiju and others are also seen.

speech during the debate on the Budget.

Congress member Rajani Ashokrao Patil stood and asked why Tiwari mentioned Dhankhar as an OBC. She also wanted to know whether Jats are OBC in Rajasthan.

Dr K Laxman of BJP said Jats were included in

the Other Backward Classes during the tenure of former PM AB Vajpayee.

Dhankhar said he was associated with the Jat Aarakshan Samiti and was its principal spokesperson. He said a six-member delegation had met the then prime minister and its demand was

accepted immediately.

"That time the Chief Minister of Rajasthan was at Jaisalmer and he flew back and implemented in the state also," he said, adding, Rajasthan is the first state where Jats got reservation from Centre first and from the state later.

Jodhpur Development Authority, Jodhpur
E-Auction Program of Facility Plots (Club House/ School/ Community Center/ Training Centre/ Kinder Garten/ Dispensary) and Commercial Plots in Jodhpur (August-October 2024)

क्रमांक - एफ46 / नीलामी / 2024 / जुलाई / 136 दिनांक - 25.07.2024

आवासीय क्षेत्र में स्थित सुविधा क्षेत्र व व्यावसायिक भूखण्डों की मय ई-नीलामी
दिनांक 20.08.2024 से 21.10.2024 तक

10 Facility Plots (Club House/ School/ Community Center/ Training Centre/ Kinder Garten/Dispensary) and Commercial Plots			
<p>राजगुरु एक्स्प्लेव, राजसरा ग्राम पाल के खसरा नं. 23 व 23/2 (क्लब हाउस/स्कूल/डिस्पेंसरी/ट्रेनिंग सेन्टर/कम्युनिटी सेन्टर) (1371.15 वर्ग मीटर)</p>	<p>आदित्य इण्डस्ट्रीयल एस्टेट राजसरा ग्राम सालावास के खसरा नं. 52/4, 52/5, 53/4, 53/5 (क्लब हाउस/कम्युनिटी सेन्टर/किंडर गार्टन स्कूल/डिस्पेंसरी) (3379.94 वर्ग मीटर)</p>	<p>आयुषी एवेन्यु, राजसरा ग्राम पाल के खसरा नं 495 (स्कूल प्राइमरी/सैकण्डरी) (5989.29 वर्ग मीटर)</p>	<p>सामराज नगर सेक्टर-1 वाणिज्यिक भूखण्ड (3179.57 वर्ग मीटर)</p>
<p>01 राजसरा ग्राम झालामण्ड (शाशापूर्णा अनमोल मुख्यमंत्री जन आवास योजना) में (क्लब हाउस/कम्युनिटी सेन्टर/किंडर गार्टन स्कूल/डिस्पेंसरी) (682.01 वर्ग मीटर)</p>	<p>01 ग्राम बासनी बाघेला (सुशांत लोक) के खसरा नं. 66/1, 66/2, 69/1, 86, 73/2 (विद्यालय हेतु) (17224.08 वर्ग मीटर)</p>	<p>01 राजसरा ग्राम उधियाराडा के खसरा नं. 77/4 (क्लब हाउस/कम्युनिटी सेन्टर/किंडर गार्टन स्कूल/डिस्पेंसरी) (450.70 वर्ग मीटर)</p>	<p>01 राजसरा ग्राम बनाड़ के खसरा नं. 162, 163, 164 व 166 (क्लब हाउस/कम्युनिटी सेन्टर/किंडर गार्टन स्कूल/डिस्पेंसरी) (663.18 वर्ग मीटर)</p>
<p>01 सामराज नगर सेक्टर-1 वाणिज्यिक भूखण्ड (1003.35 वर्ग मीटर)</p>	<p>01 राजसरा ग्राम मैसूर कुतडी के खसरा नं. 211/114, 273/116, वगैरह (एम.एस.एम.ई योजना) (क्लब हाउस/कम्युनिटी सेन्टर/डिस्पेंसरी)(2723.65 वर्ग मीटर)</p>	<p>01</p>	<p>01</p>

ईएमडी जमा दिनांक 20 अगस्त 2024 से प्रारम्भ

ऑनलाईन बिड प्रारम्भ तिथि: 20 अगस्त 2024 अंतिम तिथि: 21 अक्टूबर 2024

प्रभारी अधिकारी (नीलामी शाखा) जोधपुर विकास प्राधिकरण जोधपुर मोबाईल नं.- 96723-54150, 96364-12457

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नीलामी के समस्त भूखण्डों की विस्तृत जानकारी एवं नीलामी की शर्तें जोधपुर विकास प्राधिकरण की वेबसाइट : joda.rajasthan.gov.in पर देखें या कार्यालय में सम्पर्क करें। नीलामी की प्रक्रिया SSO ID के जरिये Urban Services के माध्यम से की जाएगी।

2 columns of Army deployed for rescue operation



Rescue operation underway after landslides at Chooralmala, in Wayanad dist, on Tuesday. **PTI**

First India Bureau
Wayanad

Two rescue columns of Indian Army with a strength of approximately 200 soldiers from Defence Security Corps (DSC) Centre, Kannur, along with a medical team from Military Hospital Kannur and troops from Territorial Army from Kozhikode have been deployed near Meppadi where a massive landslide was reported on Tuesday.

Another 50-member river crossing team of the Indian Navy from Ezhimala Navel Academy has also been deployed for

the rescue operation. "Early this morning, a massive landslide struck hilly areas near Meppadi in Wayanad district resulting in hundreds of people suspected to be trapped. Assistance was sought from the Indian Army and

WAYANAD LANDSLIDE

Indian Air Force," a Defence release said.

Two Relief columns from the Defence Security Corps Centre, Kannur along with rescue equipment and other detachments have been deployed for rescue and relief operations.

Two helicopters from

Air Force Station Sulur have been despatched for rescue operations. Weather over the affected area is adverse. However, they will be taking off again towards disaster relief operations.

The Army received a request from the Kerala Government for the rescue of approximately 250 persons likely to be stranded in a major landslide in Meppadi Panchayath, it added.

Meanwhile, as directed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Minister George Kurian is heading to Wayanad to lead relief and rescue operations.

RAHUL GANDHI CALLS FOR ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS CALAMITIES

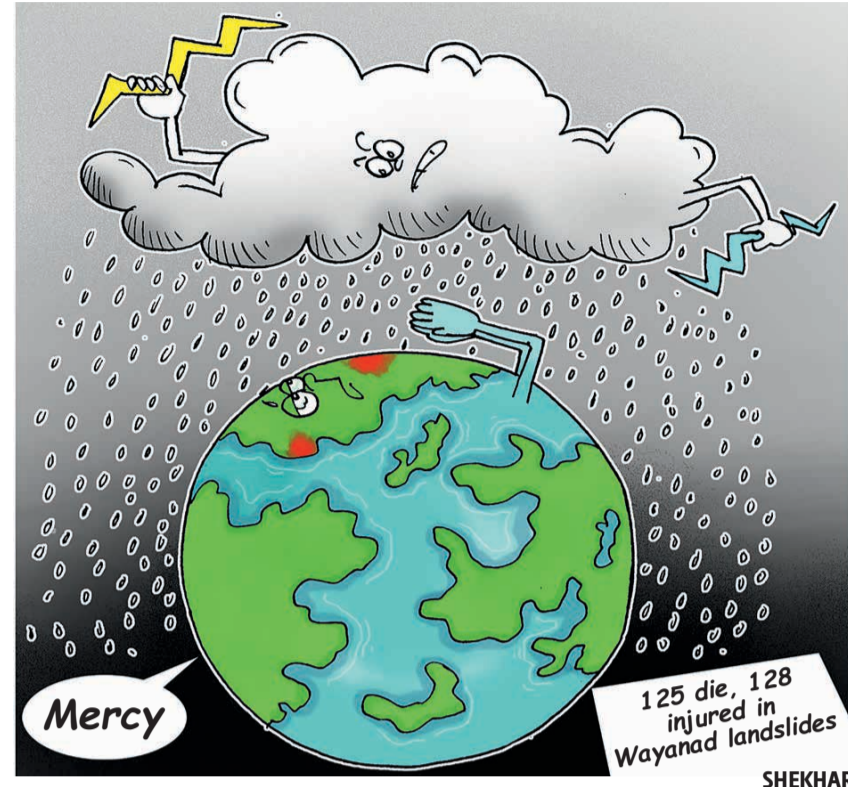
New Delhi: Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday expressed concern over landslides that hit his former constituency Wayanad, and urged the govt to undertake urgent mapping of landslide-prone areas and formulate an action plan to address such calamities. Raising the issue during Zero Hour, he said, "Early this morning, Wayanad was hit by several devastating landslides. Many people have been killed. Mundakai village has been cut off and the devastating loss of lives and extensive damage is yet to be assessed, due to the scale of the tragedy." The Congress MP from Raebareilly said he had spoken to Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan on the tragic incident.

HEAVY ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT AIRLIFTED; ICG MOBILISES TEAMS

New Delhi: Heavy equipment and rescue dog teams are being airlifted and disaster relief teams have been dispatched by the Indian Coast Guard to provide aid and succour to people after a series of landslides in the hilly areas of Kerala's Wayanad early Tuesday. The Defence Ministry in a statement said the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) district HQ (Kerala & Mahe) and ICG station Bepore dispatched disaster relief teams (DRT) on Tuesday to the landslide-affected areas in Wayanad.



FI TOON



ARMY DOGS THAT CAN SNIFF OUT LIFE FROM UNDER MUD TO BE DEPLOYED IN WAYANAD

Thiruvananthapuram: Trained dogs from Army's elite canine unit of breeds such as Belgian Malinois, Labrador, and German Shepherds, which can smell human remains and even faintest of breath buried deep under mud, are on their way to the landslide-ravaged Meppadi in Wayanad. These dogs have been trained for several years at the prestigious Remount Veterinary Corps Centre in Meerut, UP. Based on a special request from the Chief Minister of Kerala, the Canine Squad of Army, specially trained for operations in disaster areas, will be flown to Wayanad to sniff out signs of life so that people trapped deep under the mud at the landslide site can be rescued, and also to recover human remains of those who were not fortunate enough to survive.



IMD ISSUES 'YELLOW ALERT' FOR HEAVY RAINFALL IN 8 TN DISTRICTS

Chennai: The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a 'yellow alert' for eight districts of Tamil Nadu for the next two days, saying heavy rainfall along with thunderstorms are expected. Heavy rainfall with thunderstorms has been predicted in The Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Kanyakumari, Tiruppur, Dindigul, Theni, Tenkasi and Tirunelveli districts of Tamil Nadu for the next two days. The rest of the state will receive light to moderate rain for the next two days.

Amarnath Yatra: 4.66L devotees have 'darshan' in just 31 days

First India Bureau
Jammu

Another batch of 1,477 devotees left Jammu for Kashmir on Tuesday, taking the total number to 4.66 lakh pilgrims who have performed the ongoing Amarnath Yatra so far, said the officials of the Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board (SASB), which manages the affairs of the Himalayan Yatra.

The Yatra started on June 29 and will conclude after 52 days on August 19 coinciding with Shraavan Purnima and Raksha Bandhan festivals. Tuesday's batch of 1,477 pilgrims left Bhagwati Nagar Yatri Niwas in Jammu in two escorted convoys.

Due to extraordinary arrangements of security made by the CAPFs and J&K Police, the Yatra has been proceeding peacefully and smoothly this year.

Delhi Coaching Centre Deaths Now Preet Vihar area under scanner as MCD launches sealing campaign



MCD officials seal a coaching centre in the presence of Delhi Mayor Shelly Oberoi, at Preet Vihar in New Delhi, on Tuesday. **PTI**

PTI
New Delhi

The Municipal Corporate of Delhi (MCD) on Tuesday launched a sealing drive in Preet Vihar against coaching centres running commercial activities in their basements.

The MCD was seen in action in two other UPSC coaching hubs, Mukherjee Nagar and Rajendra Nagar in past two days. Delhi Mayor Shelly

Oberoi was present as the agency cracked down on illegally run basements of coaching institutes.

The drive is being continued simultaneously in Mukherjee Nagar and Rajinder Nagar where so far 20 basements of coaching centres have been sealed for running commercial activities. The MCD sealed 13 such establishments on Sunday in Rajinder Nagar and six more on Tuesday.

DELHI HC TO HEAR PIL ON COACHING CENTRE DEATHS TODAY

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court has agreed to hear a plea on Wednesday regarding the basement flooding incident at Rau's IAS Study Circle in Old Rajendra Nagar in Delhi, which occurred on Saturday, tragically resulting in the deaths of three students. The plea seeks the formation of a high-level committee to investigate the matter thoroughly. Three civil service aspirants Shreya Yadav from Uttar Pradesh, Tanya Soni from Telangana, and Nevin Dalwin from Kerala died after the basement of the building, illegally operated as a library suddenly flooded, leaving several students trapped inside.



Derailed: Trains cancelled from Howrah

Agencies
Kolkata

Amid the Howrah-Mumbai CSMT Mail accident in Jharkhand on Tuesday, more long-distance trains from the Howrah division have been cancelled. Two long trains from Howrah, namely Howrah Barbil Jan Shatabdi Express and Kantabanji Ispat Express, which were supposed to depart from Howrah Station in the morning, were cancelled. As per the latest information available five more long-distance trains



Rescue work underway after Mumbai-Howrah Mail derailed near Badabamboo in Seraikeela-kharsawan dist, on Tuesday. **PTI**

during the day have been cancelled including Asansol Tatanagar Express and Kharagpur Dhanbad Express among others.

Relatives of passengers of Howrah-Mumbai CSMT Mail were gathering at helpdesk centre at Howrah station.

WB POLICE ISSUE HELPLINE NUMBERS

Shillong: West Bengal Police on Tuesday announced 13 helpline numbers at three GRPs in the state following the derailment of the Howrah-Mumbai CSMT Mail in Jharkhand, in which two persons have died and many were injured. Of the 13 helpline numbers, five are at Howrah and Sealdah GRPs each, while three are at Kharagpur GRP. Two persons were killed and 50 others injured after 18 coaches of a train bound for Mumbai derailed in Jharkhand.

Search op launched after suspicious movement in J&K's Poonch district

PTI
Jammu

Security forces have launched a cordon and search operation following information about movement of two suspected terrorists in a remote village in Poonch district of Jammu and

Kashmir, officials said on Tuesday. The two armed suspects, dressed in black, were seen moving in Salampura village near Dehra Ki Gali late Monday night, they said.

Police assisted by the Rashtriya Rifles and CRPF launched a joint

operation immediately after getting the information.

The suspected terrorists were seen moving towards lower Pangai, they said, adding the search operation is underway but there was no contact with the suspected terrorists so far.

Four Naxals arrested in Chhattisgarh

PTI
Bijapur

Four Naxals were arrested from separate locations in Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh on Tuesday.

Three among them were involved in triggering a blast targeting police personnel in a forested area in Kanwadgaon-Pidiya village in December last year, while the fourth one, identified as Ganpat Podyam, was wanted for killing a purported police informer.

Bhima Karam alias Dumma, Joga Kalmu alias Betiya and Sukku Karam alias Sannu, all lower-rung cadres, were nabbed near a forest of Andari village under the Gangalpur police station limits by the District Reserve Guard (DRG) and local police during anti-Naxal operation, an official said.

Podyam, a militia member, was nabbed by the local police from Bhandarpal-Pujaripara village under the Ilmidi police station limits, the official added.

OUT-OF-THE-BOX IDEAS

Yadav launches Ideas4Life portal at IIT Delhi

First India Bureau
New Delhi

Union Minister Bhubender Yadav launched Ideas4Life portal to invite ideas related to products and services to inspire behavioural change related to eco-friendly lifestyle.

Speaking on this occasion, Yadav called upon students, researchers, teachers and innovators to come up with innovative and out-of-the-box ideas that will work towards fulfilling the vision of Prime Minister Narendra



Union Minister Bhubender Yadav launches portal at IIT Delhi.

Modi for careful and thoughtful use of resources. Yadav stressed on sustainable consumption to

protect nature and preserve it for future generations. Interacting with the

participants and students at the launch event of Ideas4Life, Yadav said that the initiative aims to encourage and motivate students, teachers and researchers to contribute their innovative ideas to the global initiative of Mission Life. He said that this is a remarkable opportunity for inspired minds to join a global movement dedicated to environmental sustainability.

Highlighting the importance of Mission Life, Yadav said that all the basic things we receive from

nature are pure, but our production in return is impure. "It is time to introspect and help protect nature and sustain it for future generations. Nature provides us with food, oil, energy and medicine for living. When nature gives us everything that is necessary for survival, it is our responsibility to protect it. This initiative needs to be adopted and it is a collective responsibility to make it successful. Careful and thoughtful use of all resources will help us protect nature," he said.

Bengal: ED begins search operation in 10 locations

Agencies
Kolkata

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday began search operation in at least ten places across North 24 Parganas, including Rajarhat at the eastern part of the greater Kolkata, in connection with the alleged ration distribution scam during Covid-19 period in West Bengal.

The raids were being conducted in at least six houses and four rice mills of a businessman identified as Barik Biswas, also known to be one of the close associates of ar-



rested former state food minister Jyotirmoy Mallick, sources said.

The searches were on progress, besides Rajarhat where Biswas has a flat and cars, at Basirhat and Deganga. The ED, accompanied by scores of armed CRPF jawans, began raiding the location from dawn, they added.



DAY 4 OF HOCKEY MATCH India put one foot in quarterfinals in men's hockey with 2-0 win over Ireland; will face Belgium next

INDIA SECURE TOP SPOT IN MEN'S POOL B

INDIA'S SCHEDULE FOR TODAY

Shooting - 50m rifle 3 Positions Men's Qualification: Aishwary Pratap S Tomar & Swapnil Kusale - 12:30pm

Women's Trap Qualification: Shreyasi Singh and Rajeshwari Kumari - 12:30pm

Badminton - Women's singles (Group stage): PV Sindhu vs Kristin Kuuba (Estonia) - 12:50pm

Men's singles (Group stage): Lakshya Sen vs Jonatan Christie (Indonesia) - 1:40pm

Men's singles (Group stage): HS Prannoy vs Duc Phat Le (Vietnam) - 11pm

Table Tennis - Women's singles Round of 32: Sreeja Akula vs Jian Zeng (Singapore) - 2:20pm

Boxing - Women's 75kg round of 16: Lovlina Borgohain vs Sunniva Hofstad (Norway) - 3:50pm

Men's 71kg round of 16: Nishant Dev vs Jose Gabriel Rodriguez Tenorio (Ecuador) - 12:18 am (Aug 1)

Archery: Women's Individual 1/32 Elimination round: Deepika Kumari vs Reena Parnat (Estonia) - 3:56pm

Men's Individual 1/32 Elimination round: Tarundeep Rai vs Tom Hall (Great Britain) - 9:15pm

Equestrian: Dressage Individual Grand Prix Day 2: Anush Agarwalla - 1:30pm



India's captain Harmanpreet Singh celebrates with teammates after scoring a goal during the Pool B hockey match between India and Ireland at the Olympics, in Paris, France, Tuesday. **PTI**

PTI
Paris

The Indian men's hockey team expectedly beat Ireland despite a few defense lapses to more or less secure its passage into the quarterfinals of the Paris Olympics, with skipper Harmanpreet scoring a brace in a 2-0 win in a Pool B match, here Tuesday.

Unlike the previous two matches, India penetrated the rival circle consistently and dictated play in the first half. It was expected, considering that Ireland were the easiest of the opponents in this pool.

India were, however, far from convincing in the second half, but the win has taken them to seven points from three matches while the defeat has ousted Ireland from the quarterfinal race.

Belgium and Australia, both unbeaten, have six points each and they play against each other later in the day.

India next face Belgium on August 1.

RAJASTHAN'S ATHLETES ARRIVE IN PARIS, SEEK PROMISED GOVT AID

→ Rajasthan's two Olympic shooters, Maheshwari Chauhan and Anantjeet Singh, have arrived in Paris, still waiting for government assistance. Despite securing Olympic quotas, these two athletes had applied for financial support of ₹10 lakh each to aid their preparations. Now both shooters are set to compete in the Olympics in 2 days, but they have yet to receive the promised government aid. Additionally, their prize money for winning international medals remains unpaid. The delay in financial support has added to their challenges. **Naresh Sharma**

ALREADY IN QUARTERFINALS, SATWIK-CHIRAG PAIR TOPS GROUP, BEATS INDONESIAN DUO

→ Paris: Medal contenders Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty notched up a dominating straight-game win against Indonesian duo of Muhammad Rian Ardianto and Fajar Alfian to top Group C in men's doubles badminton competition at the Paris Games here on Tuesday. The third-seeded Indian duo beat their opponents 21-13 21-13 in the final Group C match that lasted just 38 minutes. The reigning Asian Games champion Indian pair had qualified for the quarterfinals on Monday after the withdrawal of one pair and the loss suffered by another. Tuesday's match was meant to decide group winner. The Indonesian pair also qualified for the quarterfinals after finishing second in the group. The draw for the quarterfinals will be held on Wednesday.



BHAJAN KAUR MOVES TO PRE-QUARTERS; ANKITA MAKES EXIT

→ Continuing her fine form, teenage Indian archer Bhajan Kaur notched back-to-back victories in the women's individual event to advance to the pre-quarterfinals at the Paris Olympics here on Tuesday. The 18-year-old, who had shot exceptionally well in the team event albeit in a losing cause, defeated Indonesia's Syifa Nurafifah and Wioleta Myszor of Poland in her opening two rounds. Her compatriot, Ankita Bhakat, however, stumbled in the opening round, going down to Myszor 4-6 (26-27 29-26 28-27 27-29 27-28). Kaur took her opening round against the Indonesian player.



TRAP SHOOTER FINISHES IN QUALIFICATION ROUND

→ India's miserable run on the shotgun ranges continued with trap shooter Prithviraj Tondaiman, despite shooting two perfect scores of 25 in the last two qualification rounds on Tuesday, finished 21st among 30 marksmen. The top-six shooters make it to the final round. Tondaiman was five points adrift of the top-four shooters.

MEDALS TALLY

RANK	COUNTRY	Gold	Silver	Bronze	TOTAL
1	JAPAN	07	02	04	13
2	CHINA	06	06	02	14
3	FRANCE	05	08	04	17
4	AUSTRALIA	05	04	00	09
5	SOUTH KOREA	05	03	03	11
6	USA	03	08	10	21
31	INDIA	00	00	02	02

LAST UPDATE 11:30 PM

Iran President Masoud sworn in with chants of 'Death To America, Israel'

Agencies
Tehran

Iranian reformist president **Masoud Pezeshkian** was sworn before parliament on Tuesday as the Islamic republic's ninth president at a ceremony attended by foreign dignitaries. Pezeshkian won a runoff race against ultraconservative Saeed Jalili on July 5 to replace Ebrahim Raisi who died in a helicopter crash in May. The ceremony came 2 days after Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei officially endorsed Pezeshkian and gave the 69-year-old heart surgeon presidential powers. "I as the president, in



front of the Holy Koran and the people of Iran, swear to almighty God to be the guardian of the official religion and the Islamic Republic system and the constitution of the country," Pezeshkian said. "Those who supply weapons that kill children cannot teach Muslims about humanity," Pezeshkian said, amidst chants of "Death to America" and "Death to Israel".

Kamala Harris to name VP by next week: Report

Agencies
New York

Vice President Kamala Harris will tour battleground states next week with her vice presidential candidate, two sources familiar with the planning said on Tuesday.

The high-stakes decision on who will run with Harris has taken center stage since she became the Democratic frontrunner for the Nov. 5 election.

Harris will announce her vice presidential pick before next week's tour of states that could swing to Republicans or Democrats in November. Harris' campaign did not immediately respond to requests for comment.



Vice President Kamala Harris waves as she arrives at Westfield-Barnes Regional Airport in Westfield, Massachusetts.

KAMALA HARRIS WORSE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE THAN JOE BIDEN, SAYS TRUMP

→ Former president and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump has called his likely Democratic opponent, Vice President Kamala Harris, a "worse candidate" than President Joe Biden, who she replaced more than a week ago. "I think she (Harris) is the worst candidate than him (Biden). She is far more radical left," Trump said in an interview, his first after Harris, 59, became the presumptive nominee of the Democratic Party.

IND beat SL in Super Over and win series 3-0

First India Bureau
Pallekele

Inspired bowling from Indian spinners have restricted Sri Lanka to 137/8 same as what India have made in the first innings. The result of match was decided by Super Over at the Pallekele International Cricket Stadium in Pallekele on Tuesday. Sri Lankan skipper Charith Asalanka won the toss and opted to bowl first against Suryakumar Yadav's India in the third of three match T20I at the Pallekele International Cricket Stadium in Pallekele. India beat Sri Lanka in Super over and win series 3-0 with Suryakumar Yadav hitting a clean 1.

Israel carries out targeted strike in Lebanese capital



Palestinians make their way as they return to the eastern side of Khan Younis after Israeli forces pulled out from the area on Tuesday.

Agencies
Beirut

The Israeli military said it carried out a targeted strike in Beirut on Tuesday against the Hezbollah commander it said was responsible for a strike in the Golan Heights that killed 12 children and teenagers at the weekend. A loud blast was heard and a plume of smoke could be seen rising above the southern suburbs - a stronghold of Lebanese armed group Hezbollah. "The IDF carried out a targeted strike in Beirut, on the commander responsible for the murder of the children in Majdal Shams and the killing of numerous additional Israeli civilians," the Israeli Defence Forces said.

AS AMBASSADOR TO INDIA

Nepal's new govt re-appoints Shankar Sharma

PTI
Kathmandu

Nepal's new government led by Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli has appointed ambassadors for 13 countries, including India, China and the US.

Shankar Sharma, who was among 11 ambassadors recalled by the previous Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' government on June 6, was reappointed as Nepal's ambassador to India, cabinet sources said.



Shankar Sharma was reappointed as Nepal's ambassador to India, cabinet sources said.

Lok Darshan Regmi, former chief secretary and Nepal's envoy to the UK, had been nominated for New Delhi, but his appointment could not be confirmed due to a change in government. On July 15, Oli was sworn in as prime minister, replacing Prachanda. Sharma was appointed at the recommendation of the Nepali Congress. Now, the Oli government

Lok Darshan Regmi, former chief secretary and Nepal's envoy to the UK, had been nominated for New Delhi, but his appointment could not be confirmed due to a change in government

has decided to re-appoint Sharma as Nepal's ambassador to India.

Regmi has been appointed as Nepalese ambassador to the US.

Similarly, the government decided to nominate Krishna Prasad Oli as Nepal's ambassador to China. All the ambassador nominees need to undergo parliamentary hearings before the president appoints them to their respective positions.

Meanwhile, Dahal and Oli, though, were reportedly unhappy with the new arrangement.

Mandhana, Thakur rise in ICC T20I rankings after Asia Cup

Agencies
Dubai

India's Smriti Mandhana moved up to fourth place in the list of batters, while seamer Renuka Singh Thakur was ranked fifth among bowlers, in the latest ICC T20I rankings issued on Tuesday.

India opener and vice-captain Mandhana, who scored a vital 60 in the Women's T20 Asia Cup final against Sri Lanka, moved up one place to fourth with 743 rating points. Among bowlers, Renuka, who snapped seven wickets in the



Among bowlers, Renuka, who snapped seven wickets in the tournament, is ranked fifth with 722 rating points as she moved up four places.

tournament, is ranked fifth with 722 rating points as she moved up four places. Radha Yadav, who was Asia Cup's fifth highest wicket-taker with six scalps, reached 13th.

FIRST INDIA 2ND FRONT

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

When worry dogs you about day-to-day things, step back and look at long-term picture and when the long-term goals worry you.

Dr JACDEESH CHANDRA, CMD & Editor-in-Chief



08

CM directs MLAs & Mins to hold 'tiffin meetings' with masses

Ministers must hear MLAs once a week, asserts CM

First India Bureau
Jaipur

While addressing the BJP Legislature Party meeting held in the State Assembly on Monday, Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma instructed all Ministers to stay in Jaipur for three days each week and dedicate one of those days to listening to the MLAs.

Additionally, the Chief Minister also directed all MLAs and ministers to hold "tiffin meetings" to establish a direct connection with the common people and ensure that government welfare schemes are effectively communicated.

The Chief Minister further emphasised the importance of monitoring the implementation of budget announcements in their respective areas to ensure they are executed properly. CM Sharma also instructed the MLAs to take care of party workers, acknowledging that their dedication was crucial for the BJP's success in forming the government in the State.



CM Bhajan Lal Sharma addresses during the Legislative Party meeting at State Assembly in Jaipur on Tuesday. Diya Kumari, Dr PC Bairwa, Jhabar Singh Kharra, BL Kharadi, Heeralal Nagar, Avinash Gehlot, Kalicharan Saraf & others were present.

COMMITTED TO PROTECTING TRIBAL RESOURCES & WELFARE: CM

CM Bhajan Lal Sharma chaired a significant meeting of Rajasthan Scheduled Tribe Advisory Council in Assembly committee room. During the meeting, he stressed that elected representatives must meet public expectations and urged them to organise 'Tiffin meetings' for better community engagement. He also announced an increase in the Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) fund from Rs1,000 cr to Rs1,500 cr, highlighting gov't commitment to tribal welfare. The discussion focused



CM Bhajan Lal Sharma addresses meeting of Raj TAC in State Assembly in Jaipur. BL Kharadi, Shubhra Singh, Abhay Kumar & others were present.

on development of the TAD regions. CM posted on social media, stating, "We had an extensive discussion on various important topics related to the all-round devp of tribal society & areas,

and guided the officials. Our gov't is committed to protecting water, forest, & land resources of the tribal community, their dignity and welfare, in pursuit to fulfil the goal of 'Aapno Agrani Rajasthan.'

New Guv Haribhau Bagade receives warm welcome and Guard of Honour at Raj Bhavan

Vinod Singh Chouhan
Jaipur

Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma introduced the new Governor to the cabinet, who was then given a guard of honour by the R.A.C. battalion at the airport. The Governor took the salute and inspected the honor guard.

Haribhau Kisanrao Bagade received an emotional welcome at the Jaipur Raj Bhavan, where he was also honoured with a guard of honour. Upon arrival, Secretary to the Governor, Gaurav Goyal, presented him with a bouquet.

At Raj Bhavan, Bagade offered prayers at the Raj Rajeshwar temple, while wishing well for



The newly appointed Governor Haribhau Kisanrao Bagade being greeted by Dr Prem Chand Bairwa at Jaipur Airport. CM Bhajan Lal Sharma is also seen.



Haribhau Bagade performs 'Jalarpan' and worships Lord Shiva at the Raj Rajeshwar Temple located at Raj Bhavan in Jaipur on Tuesday.

everyone. Raj Bhavan officials welcomed him and introduced themselves. Governor Bagade also met outgoing Governor Kalraj Mishra at Raj Bhavan, who extended a warm welcome to him.



The newly appointed Governor, Haribhau Kisanrao Bagade being welcomed by Vasudev Devnani in the presence of CM Bhajan Lal Sharma at Jaipur Airport on Tuesday.

'Will never forget the love & warmth I received in Raj'

First India Bureau
Jaipur

Governor Kalraj Mishra recently expressed heartfelt gratitude for the warm support and affection he received from the people of Rajasthan throughout his tenure. During a farewell event held at Raj Bhavan to mark the end of his five-year term, Mishra reflected on his experiences and the significance of upholding constitutional values in public life. Emphasising the im-



Governor Kalraj Mishra addresses during a programme held to mark completion of 5 years of his tenure at Raj Bhavan in Jaipur on Tuesday. Gaurav Goyal, GR Jaiswal & others were present.

portance of promoting constitutional awareness, Mishra described his work as deeply meaningful. He highlighted the Constitution of India as

the supreme law and stressed his commitment to initiatives aimed at fostering constitutional values and unity. Mishra highlighted key

achievements from his tenure, including the introduction of a 'choice-based system' in state universities and the establishment of the 'Chancellor Award'.

He noted advancements such as the digitisation of the Governor's Relief Fund and online donation capabilities. Mishra also emphasized his support for ex-servicemen and public health campaigns, with Secretary Gaurav Goyal praising his innovative leadership in Rajasthan.

'State Govt provides world class tech facilities for youth'



Rajyavardhan Rathore inspects the facilities after inaugurating the Behavioral Lab, Cyber Security Simulation Lab and Blockchain Experience Centre at R-CAT in Jaipur on Tuesday.

Shivangi Rao
Jaipur

IT & Communication Minister Colonel Rajyavardhan Rathore inaugurated several new facilities at the Rajasthan Centre of Advanced Technology (R-CAT), including Behavioural Lab, Cyber Security Simulation Lab, &

Blockchain Experience Centre. He praised Raj's advancements in technology & emphasised importance of inclusivity via innovation. He also launched an 'Early Career Programme' with HCL Tech for 12th-grade students & observed a placement drive where 65 of 300 students were shortlisted.

CHAs meet LS Speaker

First India Bureau
New Delhi

The movement for reappointing COVID Health Assistants (CHAs) has reached Delhi. CHA officials, led by State Coordinator Rakesh Saini & District Prez Vijay Meena, met Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, presenting a memorandum. They allege BJP leaders promised reappointment if BJP won, but despite protests, there has been no progress since their dismissal after the crisis.



Om Birla interacts with the CHA officials, who called upon him at New Delhi on Tuesday.

In PM's Noble Guidance...



Prime Minister Narendra Modi warmly meets the newly appointed BJP State President for Rajasthan, Madan Rathore at the PM's chamber in the Parliament House in New Delhi on Tuesday. Rathore shared on X saying, "Today, I had a courtesy meeting with the architect of a developed India, the pioneer of the digital revolution in the country, and the most popular leader in the world, our esteemed Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji, in New Delhi. During this meeting, I expressed my gratitude for the best wishes received for the new responsibilities and affirmed my commitment to taking the organisation to new heights."

Ex-Raj IAS Rohit K Singh appointed as member NCDRC

First India Bureau
New Delhi

Four months after his retirement from post of union consumer affairs secretary, former IAS Rohit Kumar Singh has been appointed as member in National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC). The term of the member is for a period of four years from assumption of charge or till the attainment of 67 years. Rohit Kumar Singh, a 1989-batch former IAS officer who retired in March, will serve the full term. His appointment comes a day before his wife Nina Singh retires as DG (CISF).



Mohan emerges as Union Home Secy frontrunner

First India Bureau
New Delhi

In a dramatic turn of events, IAS Govind Mohan is emerging as the frontrunner for the prestigious role of Home Secretary of India. Currently serving as Secretary in the Ministry of Art and Culture, Mohan, a 1989 batch IAS officer from the Sikkim cadre, is renowned for his exceptional strategic acumen and relentless work ethic. As the buzz intensifies, top contenders IAS Apurva Chandra and RK Singh are also in the mix. This anticipated appointment marks a pivotal moment in Indian governance.

Mohan, former ACS in MHA under Amit Shah and Secretary to



Govind Mohan Apurva Chandra

During his 27-month tenure, Govind Mohan was instrumental in introducing several key initiatives in Jaipur

ex-CM Vasundhara Raje, played a key role in introducing key initiatives in Jaipur and managed critical issues during COVID-19. Known for his workaholic nature, he often works 18 hours a day.

INVESTMENT DRIVE

BHAJAN LAL GOVERNMENT GEARING UP TO WOO INVESTORS TOWARDS RAJASTHAN!

Rajendra Chhabra
Jaipur

The Bhajan Lal government is going to organise a mega event in December as an 'Investment Summit' will be organised from December 9 to 11, wherein, PM Narendra Modi will come to Jaipur on December 9 for inauguration.

The State's Industries Department is preparing for the event on war footing as international and domestic road shows will



Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma, Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, Ajitabh Sharma

be organized in September and October. Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma himself will attend the roadshows in Japan and United Kingdom while Principal Sec-

retary Industries, Ajitabh Sharma will also accompany him.

Both Deputy CMs, Diya Kumari and Dr PC Bairwa, along with Industries Minister, Rajya-

vardhan Singh Rathore will be present for the three roadshows abroad. Meanwhile, top officials of the State Government will lead the six roadshows to be held in the country.

In the previous Congress government, an 'Investment Meet' was organised in the last month of 2022 during which, MoUs worth several crores of rupees were signed, but further implementation or action on the said MoUs have been almost zero. But this time

the situation is different as there will be enough time to implement the MoUs of the investment event being held in the first year of the government. Moreover, the team of officers associated with the event is working with dedication.

Sources say that the Bhajan Lal government is going to bring a 'Land Allotment Policy' for solar energy plants soon and it is anticipated that under this policy, MoUs for big investments will be signed in December.

Dotasra calls for protest in Aug against gov't incompetence

Naresh Sharma and Dinesh Dangi
Jaipur

Rajasthan PCC President Govind Singh Dotasra convened a meeting with Congress leaders, workers, and public representatives at the PCC headquarters to address the state's issues.

They criticised the BJP government for its failure to provide essential services, citing prolonged power cuts, a drinking water crisis, and worsening law and order, including rising crimes. Swarnim Chaturvedi,



GS Dotasra with Ashok Chandna, Swarnim Chaturvedi and others, who called upon him to congratulate him on completion of 4 years as PCC Chief at PCC Office in Jaipur on Tuesday.

PCC General Secretary, highlighted the state's inadequacies, noting the unsafe environment due to increased crime. In response, Dotasra

has called for statewide protests on August 1 and 2, with District and Block Congress Committees organising demonstrations at all levels.



City First

JAIPUR, WEDNESDAY | JULY 31, 2024



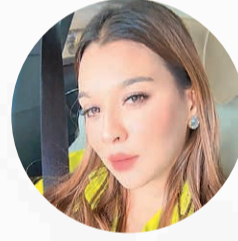
TEXTILE INDUSTRY SUMMIT!

The "Challenges Before Textile Industry of Rajasthan" symposium, held by First India News at Hotel Galoria Inn in Bhilwara, addressed key sector issues. **P10-11**



THE RISING Star!

Divyanshi Sachi, the Second Runner-Up of Miss Universe Bihar 2024, is on a determined path to make a notable impact in the modelling and acting industries. City First highlights her journey as a compelling narrative of passion, perseverance, and family support.



Tripti Mahawar
cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

Divyanshi Sachi's journey is a testament to dedication and perseverance. Currently in her final year of B.Tech at Jaypee Institute of Information Technology, Noida, Divyanshi's path is marked by her unwavering focus on achieving her dreams. With a deep passion for dancing, she has always been driven by a love for performance and expression.

Born in Bihar and raised in Faridabad, Haryana, Divyanshi's early years were characterized by shyness, yet she found joy in cycling and dancing, particularly mimicking Bollywood icon Madhuri Dixit. This passion for dance evolved into a profound connection with her spiritual self, fueling her desire to enter the fashion and modelling world. Despite lacking formal guidance, Divyanshi's persistence led her to a ramp show during her second year of college, marking the beginning of her modelling career.

Her family's support has been instrumental in her journey. Her parents, along with her three younger siblings, have been her biggest cheerleaders. Her mother, in particular, has been a source of immense motivation, always believing in Divyanshi's potential and encouraging her to pursue her dreams.

The year 2023 presented significant challenges when Divyanshi's mother suffered a brain stroke. This difficult period underscored the importance of cherishing each moment and strengthened Divyanshi's resolve. Her mother's recovery has been a beacon of hope, reminding Divyanshi of the power of resilience and the value of supportive family bonds.

Divyanshi's commitment to a healthy lifestyle includes regular exercise, hydration, and maintaining a positive mindset. Her accomplishments include a gold medal and Black Belt in kickboxing and serving as Head Girl in school.

Looking ahead, Divyanshi aspires to make a significant mark in the modelling and acting industries. Her journey, defined by passion and resilience, serves as an inspiration to many, illustrating that with dedication and support, dreams can indeed become reality.





Ankit Sharma-MD Colour Sulzer Pvt Ltd being felicitated during the ceremony



Anil Malik bags the Award in Special Thanks Category for supporting the event



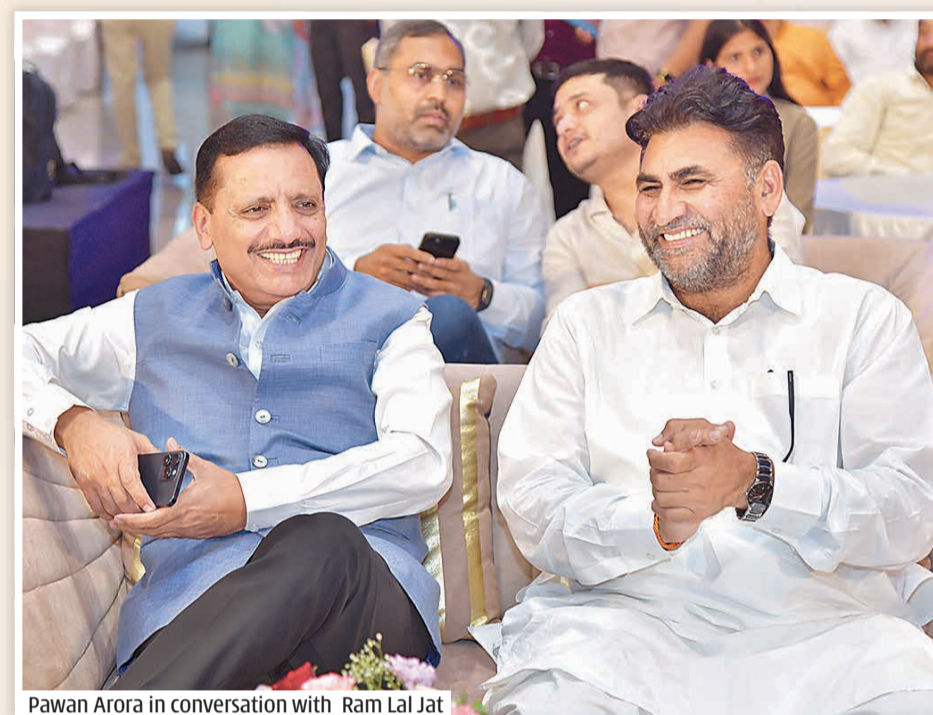
Tribhoo Patidar, Marketing Head Bhilwara Dairy, Sponsor memento being felicitated during the ceremony



Rakesh Sharma bags the award in Special thanks category for supporting the event



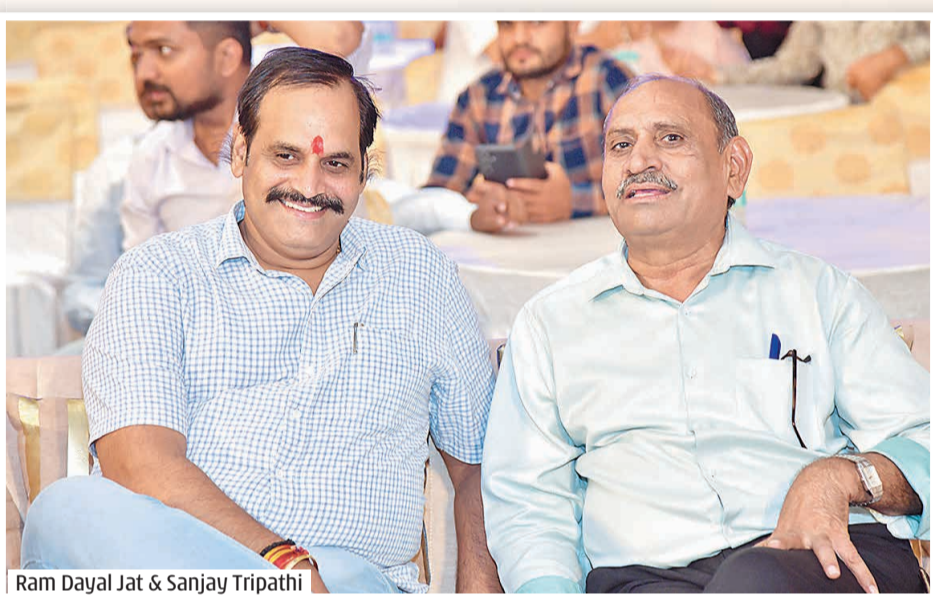
AK Spintex Ltd. Award in Textile Processing. Prakash Chhabra- Director AK Spintex received the award



Pawan Arora in conversation with Ram Lal Jat

Textile Industry Summit

The "Challenges Before Textile Industry of Rajasthan" symposium, held by First India News at Hotel Gloria Inn in Bhilwara, addressed key sector issues. The event featured sessions on business and infrastructure challenges, with discussions on GST, RIICO discrepancies, and power supply issues. Proposed solutions included solar policy updates and re-evaluating fuel surcharges. City First brings you some more glimpses of the event!



Ram Dayal Jat & Sanjay Tripathi



Meharam Choudhary & Shyam Sundar



Dr Naresh Porwal, Director Keshav Porwal Hospital, Sponsor memento being felicitated during the ceremony



Shweta Mishra addressing the audience



Prerana Bhati addressing the audience



Manish Chandak, Director Super Gold Sitings being felicitated during the ceremony



Pawan Arora with Jinendra Singh Shekhawat, Rohit Soni, Naveen & others



Sunil Jagetia being felicitated during the ceremony



Prem Garg addressing the audience



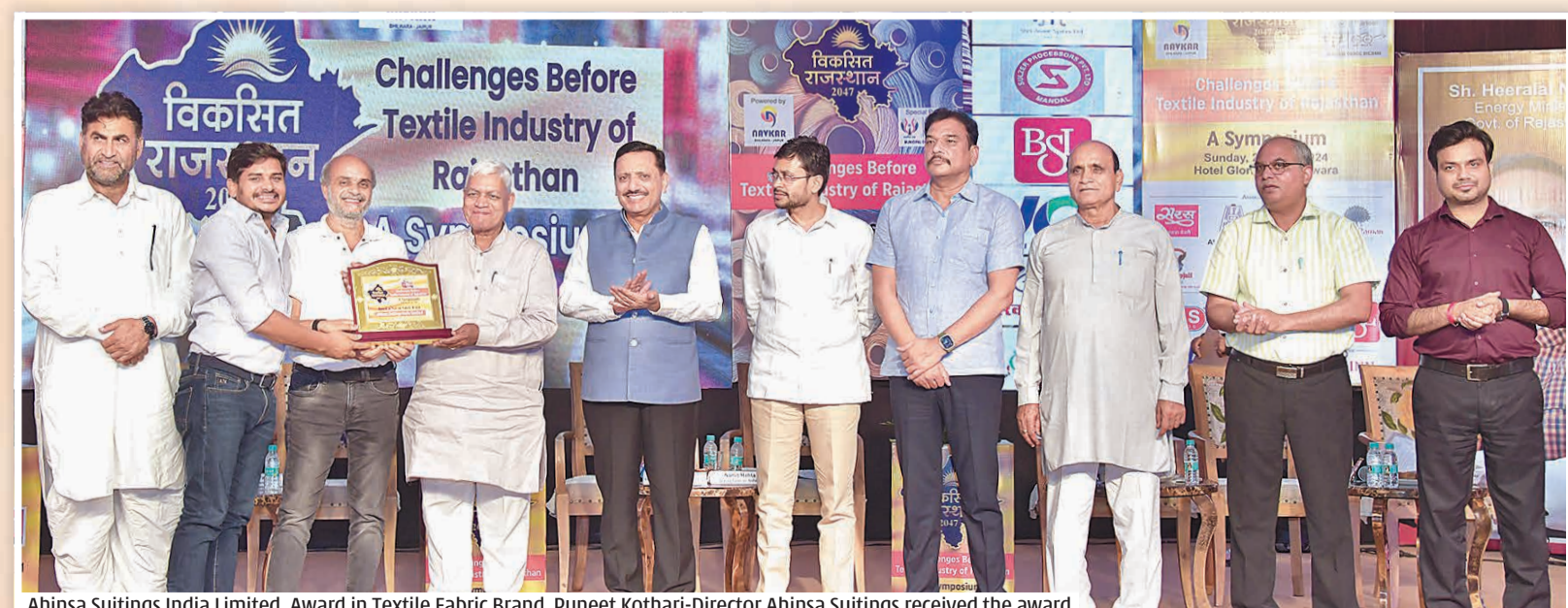
Anil Rathi, Panelist being felicitated during the ceremony



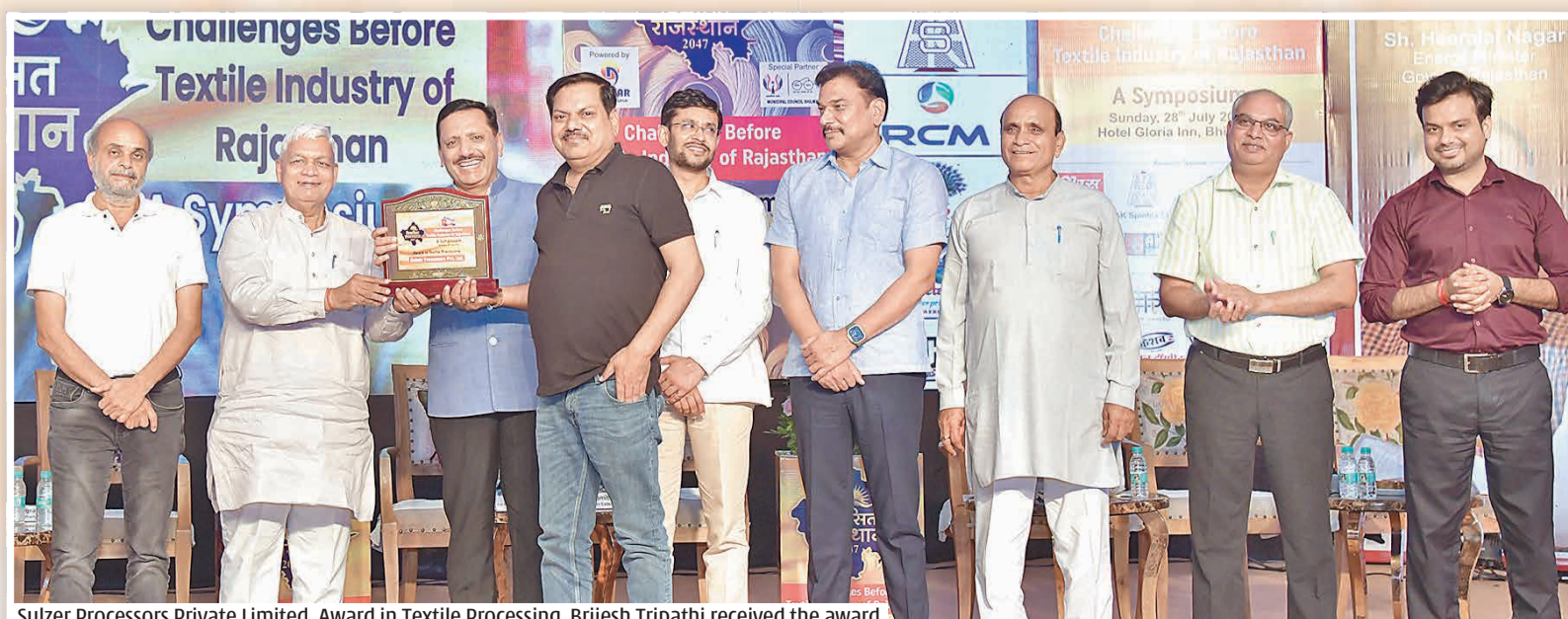
Chitwan Vyas, Director Geetanjali enterprises, sponsor memento being felicitated during the ceremony



Pawan Arora with Prerana Bhati, Shweta Mishra, Jinendra Singh Shekhawat, Naveen, Rohit Soni & others



Ahinsa Suitings India Limited, Award in Textile Fabric Brand, Puneet Kothari-Director Ahinsa Suitings received the award



Sulzer Processors Private Limited, Award in Textile Processing, Brijesh Tripathi received the award



Mahesh Hurkut, Panelist being felicitated during the ceremony

MISS UNIVERSE GUJARAT 2024 GRAND FINALE SET FOR AHMEDABAD



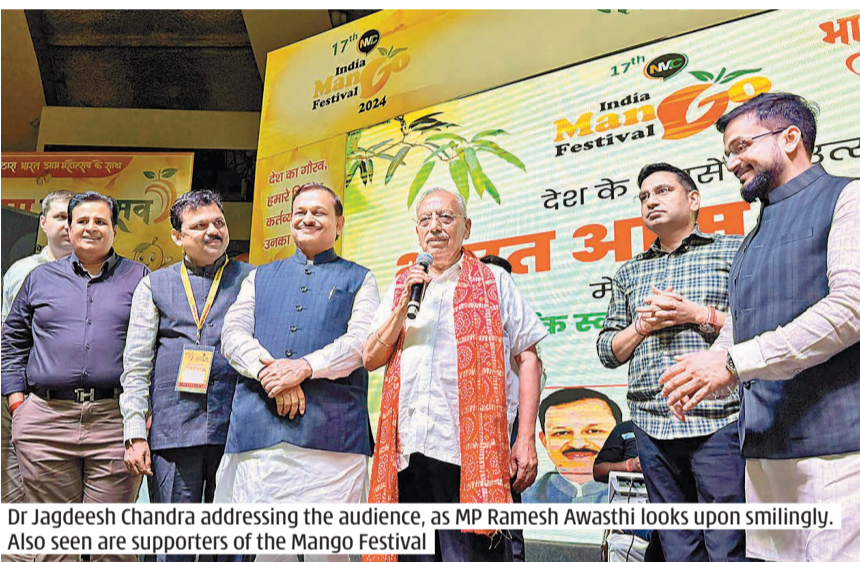
Stunning contestants of Miss Universe, Gujarat

The grand finale of the inaugural Miss Universe Gujarat 2024 will be held at Tagore Hall, Ahmedabad, from 2 PM to 5 PM. Hosted by Neepa Singh, State Director of Miss Universe Gujarat and Nikhil Anand, Director of Glamanand group, in collaboration with Supermodel India and Kalyoti Foundation, the event will feature exceptional finalists showcasing beauty, talent, and cultural pride. Dr Jagdeesh Chandra will attend as the chief guest. This prestigious pageant not only highlights women's achievements but also offers the winner the chance to represent Gujarat at the national and potentially international Miss Universe stage. The finale promises to be a grand celebration of empowerment and excellence.

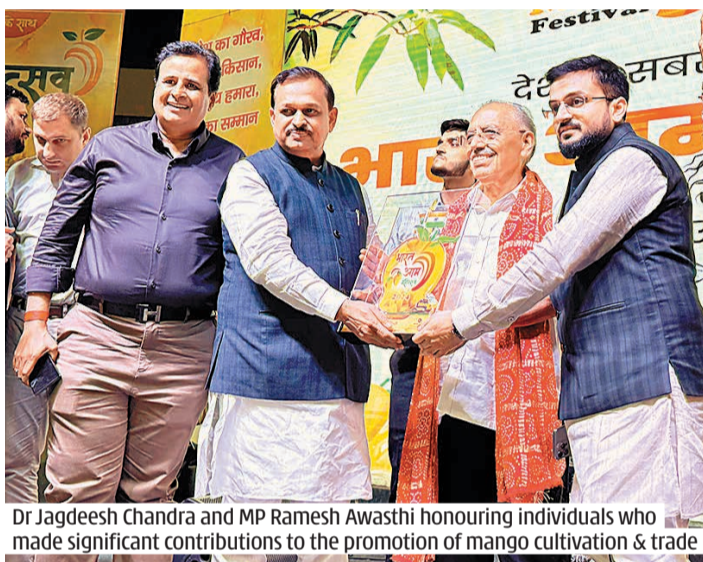


PM Modi's Mango Variety Garner Buzz at Delhi's Mango Festival

Festival of Flavours!



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra addressing the audience, as MP Ramesh Awasthi looks upon smilingly. Also seen are supporters of the Mango Festival



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra and MP Ramesh Awasthi honouring individuals who made significant contributions to the promotion of mango cultivation & trade

City First
cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

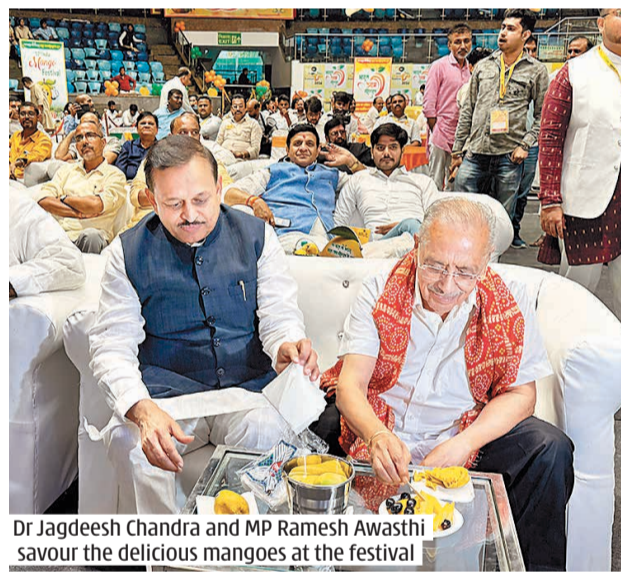
The Talkatora Stadium in Delhi buzzed with excitement as the Bharat Mango Festival, organised by Kanpur MP Ramesh Awasthi, showcased an impressive array of mango varieties. The event, a highlight in the annual calendar for mango enthusiasts, brought together prominent figures from various fields to celebrate India's beloved fruit.

Among the distinguished guests was Dr Jagdeesh Chandra. Upon his arrival, MP Ramesh Awasthi warmly welcomed Dr Chandra and provided him with a comprehensive tour of the mango exhibition. Dr Chandra expressed his admiration for the festival and the diverse range of mangoes displayed, including a special variety named after Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He praised MP Awasthi for his exceptional efforts in organising the festival, highlighting its role in promoting ag-

ricultural heritage and fostering community spirit.

During the event, Dr Chandra was honoured with a commemorative memento in recognition of his support and contributions to the festival. He reciprocated by honouring several individuals who have made significant contributions to the promotion of mango cultivation and trade.

MP Ramesh Awasthi elaborated on the festival's enduring tradition, emphasizing that it not only celebrates the mango but also symbolizes the sweetness and joy it



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra and MP Ramesh Awasthi savour the delicious mangoes at the festival

brings into people's lives. He noted that the festival has been a cherished event for years, reflecting the cultural significance of mangoes and their role in uniting people from various walks of life.

The festival also saw widespread discussions about the variety named after Prime Minister Modi, underscoring its cultural and political relevance. Overall, the Bharat Mango Festival was a resounding success, blending celebration with community engagement and appreciation for one of India's most treasured fruits.



Dr Jagdeesh Chandra and MP Ramesh Awasthi admire the Mango variety named after PM Modi, as Mango traders present it along with a sapling



Dr Chandra explores the diverse mango varieties at the Mango Festival, with exhibitors providing detailed explanations



(L-R) Sanjay Baheti, Dr Rakhi Gupta, Rakhi Nathawat, Ajay Kala & Dr Tarun Sethi

DONATE AND CHANGE LIVES

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cityfirst@firstindia.co.in

The Rotary Club Jaipur Organ Donation saw a new Governing Body and Board of Directors installed by District Governor Rtn. Dr Rakhi Gupta at Hotel Milestone D 251, recently. The newly formed club's President and Board of Directors took an oath to promote organ donation in and around Jaipur, adhering to Rotary International's guidelines.

Dignitaries from Rotary District 3056, including PDG Rtn. Ajay Kala and AG Rtn RK Meena attended the event. Dr Gupta praised the club's initiative and assured her support. PDG Rtn Ajay Kala lauded the club's efforts in raising awareness.

Charter President Rtn. Capt Amarjeet Sangwan highlighted the club's accomplishments over the past two years. New President Rtn Sanjay Baheti shared his vision and emphasized his family's commitment to the cause. The ceremony concluded with a pledge to donate eyes and a vote of thanks from Club Secretary Rtn Dr Tarun Sethi.



Rotary Club, Organ Donation members and guests promoting organ donation



CELEBRATION!
The Hotel and Restaurant Association Sariska Alwar marked International Tiger Day on Monday with a talk show at Hotel Lemon Tree. The event aimed to raise awareness about tiger conservation and efforts to halt their declining numbers. Notable speakers included DFO Rajendra Singh Hooda, former DFO BS Nathawat, and nature lover Tripathi Pandey. They highlighted the significance of Sariska Sanctuary and recent efforts to rehabilitate tigers from Ranthambore, increasing the tiger population to 43.

WHAT'S HAPPENING!



Professor ND Mathur, Dean of Jaipur School of Economics, emphasized the importance of mentors like Jamwant from the Ramayana in helping students realize their true potential. Speaking as the Chief Guest at the induction program of Subodh College for Arts and Commerce, Professor Mathur discussed the concepts of success and excellence. Professor KB Sharma, Director of Subodh Group of Institutions, delivered the welcome address, and Principal Dr Ravi Sharma proposed the vote of thanks.



(L-R) Kuldeep Singh, Daulat Singh Shaktawat, Tripti Pandey, Subbiah Nalla Muthu & Nirmal Tiwari

A talk show organised by First India News highlighted the critical balance between tiger conservation and tourism. Participants included renowned wildlife filmmaker Subbiah Nalla Muthu, retired DFO Daulat Singh Shaktawat, FHTR President Kuldeep Singh Chandela, Associate Editor Nirmal Tiwari, and tourism consultant Tripti Pandey. They discussed the interrelationship between tiger tourism and wildlife conservation, emphasizing that while tiger tourism boosts local economies and conservation efforts, it also poses challenges like habitat encroachment and environmental stress. Solutions proposed include stricter regulations, sustainable tourism practices, and community involvement. The discussion underscored the need for a balanced approach to ensure the future of both tigers and tourism. **—More on City First Tomorrow**



Jaipur National University has been ranked among the top 40 private universities in India by India Today in its August 5th, 2024 edition. This follows the university's NAAC A and NABH accreditations received in April 2024. Chancellor Dr Sandeep Bakshi expressed pride in the university's achievements and announced the upcoming establishment of an offshore campus in the UAE, which will enhance global educational opportunities. The new campus aims to benefit students globally and foster innovative research and partnerships.

SAWAN CELEBRATION!



In Albany, New York, Rajasthan families embraced their heritage during the Monday of Sawan, celebrating with traditional fervour. Attendees, dressed in vibrant Rajasthani attire, enjoyed authentic Indian cuisine and sang joyful songs while swinging in the spirit of the festival. Gend Kanwar, Bhanwar Kanwar and Usha Kumari were pivotal in maintaining cultural connections, with Usha Kumari performing Marwari

songs. The event, hosted by Jabar Singh Rathore and Kunwar Natwar Singh, featured participants including Suman Singh Khangarot, Pushpa Rathore, Urmila Manohar, Sunita Singh Rathore, Mahima Khangarot, Aanchal Bhatia, Kavita Solanki, Tanu Hada, Madhu Kumari, Paras Rathore, Neetu Rathore, Sadhna Rathore, Chand Rathore, and all others. This gathering showcased the enduring bond with Sanatani traditions across the seas. **—City First**